



**St. Francis**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9220 Georgetown Pike  
Great Falls, Virginia 22066  
[www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org](http://www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org)

## The Weekly Franciscan

### **The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany** **Sunday, February 2nd, 2025**

You are welcome to the

**8:00 a.m.** Service of Holy Eucharist Rite I with  
the Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Celebrant and Preacher  
and

**10:00 a.m.** Service of Holy Eucharist Rite II with  
the Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Celebrant and Preacher,  
with the St. Francis Choir

Children's Chapel is offered during the Sermon  
Coffee Hour Follows Each Service in Millen Hall

[The 10:00 a.m. Service is also live-streamed on YouTube](#)

[View this Sunday's Worship Bulletin](#)

### **The Liturgy of the Word**

The First Reading | [Malachi 3:1-4](#)

The Response | [Psalm 24:7-10](#)

The Second Reading | [Hebrews 2:14-18](#)

The Gospel Reading | [Luke 2:22-40](#)

### **Parish Prayer List**

We pray especially for David, Martin, Janet, Barbara & Bill, Josie, Terri, Jeff Sr., Hugh Sr., Nora Lee, Cathy, Lawrence, Bishop Gayle, David, Jon, Jessica, Paula, Clara Sue, Grace, Sofia & Larry, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, Nick & Hilary, and Dut.



**Cooking for a Cause: Young Men's Service League of Great Falls Comes to St. Francis**

The Young Men's Service League (YMSL) will be using the Millen Hall Kitchen this Saturday, February 1st, to prepare meals for people living in a Manassas homeless shelter. We are proud of these teenage sons and their mothers -- including our

very own Ian and Michelle Sanders -- who make our community special.

[For more information about the Great Falls YMSL Chapter, click here.](#)



**Dark Horse Theatre presents "Art" by Yasmina Reza @ St. Francis in Millen Hall**

**SAT-1-FEB at 7:30 p.m.**

**Synopsis:** Three Friends. €400,000. One White(?) Painting.

**Cast:** Tice Rust, Jack Reda, Scott D. Pafumi

**Stage Manager:** Katelyn Burton

**Director:** Natasha Parnian

**Notes:** 1998 Tony Winner for Best Play and 1996 Olivier Award for Best Comedy

**For ages 16+:** Contains adult language, existential crises, and dark humor.

To purchase tickets, please visit the Dark Horse Theatre box

office: [www.darkhorseva.com](http://www.darkhorseva.com)



St. Francis  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Help Make the Future of St. Francis Bright!**

**The Time has Come**

**Rick Larson's Pledge Matching Challenge**

**ENDS TOMORROW – January 31**

**\$5,740 needed to reach the Challenge total of \$20,000**

**Even more is needed to reach the Pledge Goal**

**\$600,000**

**Send your pledge or pledge increase NOW to**

**[treasurer@stfranciscgreatfalls.org](mailto:treasurer@stfranciscgreatfalls.org)**

*Auction Items and Sponsors Needed*



**...for the Black Tie Dinner & Auction  
on Saturday, March 1st at St. Francis**

**Donate or Solicit an Auction Item**

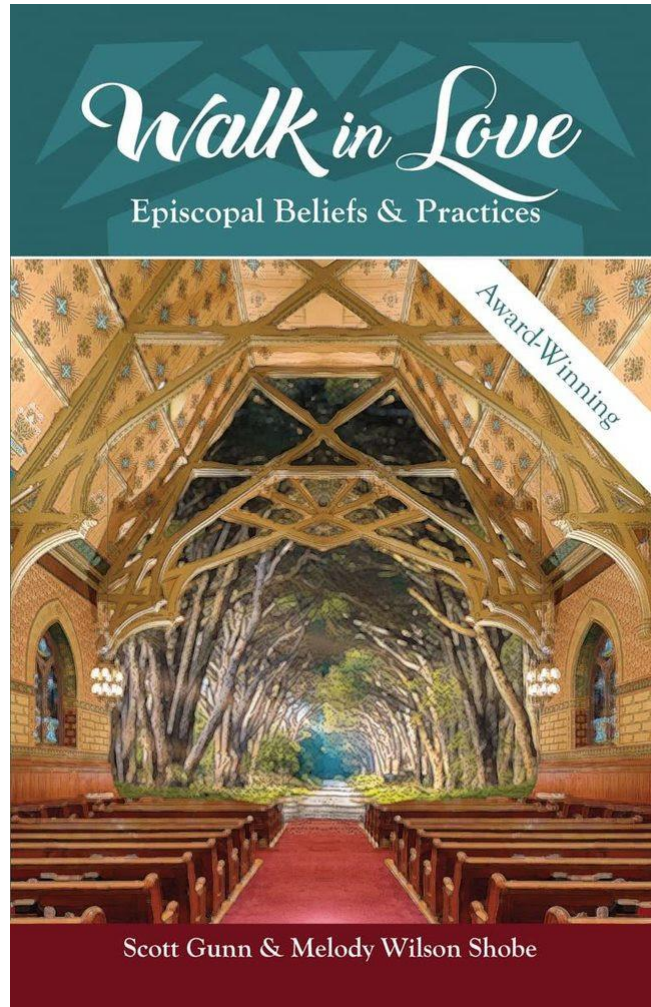
The biggest winners are vacation homes, unusual experiences/tickets to events, and gift certificates to restaurants. The latter often go for more than their face value, so please ask your favorite merchant for a dining certificate - or purchase one yourself. (Often restaurants are willing to share the cost of a certificate.)

[Click here for an Auction Form.](#)

**Become a Dinner-Auction Sponsor**

Sponsoring is an especially helpful way for you to support this effort. Sponsorship money helps us defray expenses so that we have more funds to give to away. Please sponsor by putting a check in the Sunday basket with "sponsor" written in the memo line or [click here to donate on line.](#) (Please check the "Auction Dinner Sponsor" in the drop-down box.)

***Thank you!***



**The Inquirer's Class:**

**All who seek are welcome**

Come to the Inquirer's Class with your questions about the Episcopal Church, the Anglican tradition, and what it means to follow the Way of Jesus.

**Spring 2025 Class: Wednesday evenings, February 5 - March 12,  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m., taught by the Rev. Weston Mathews.**

This class is designed for anyone interested in learning about the Episcopal Church and its Anglican heritage, as well as for anyone who wants to delve more deeply into the Christian way of life generally. Although we will cover several topics and conclude the series with an Instructed Eucharist, this class is also grounded in seeking; therefore, significant time will be spent during each session

on your questions.

Any adult or teenager who might wish to be confirmed or formally received into the Episcopal Church should attend these classes, but many long-time Franciscans and newcomers may wish to participate as a kind of refresher, or as a way to sort through some of the questions of faith that are common to many of us.

In this class our text will be *Walk In Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. [You may purchase the book through Amazon, here.](#) A limited number of books will be available in the office to borrow if you are unable to purchase one.

Sign up in any of the following ways:

- o Email Priest-in-Charge Weston Mathews [rector@stfranciscgreatfalls.org](mailto:rector@stfranciscgreatfalls.org)
- o Call or visit the parish office 703.759.2082 x101



**Second Sunday Contemplative Worship Series begins  
Sunday, February 9th at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Through candlelit prayer, contemplative silence, poetry, beautiful music, and Holy Communion from the Iona Celtic tradition, this service is different from what we offer on Sunday morning. A brief reflection on spiritual journey will also be offered by a member of St. Francis.

**This worship series will be held on the second Sunday night of each month (except for August.)** If you are looking for a new or different way to worship and a space to find your sacred center in the midst of a busy, distracted life, this may be the service for you.



**Scout Sunday is Coming  
to the February 9th 10:00 a.m. Service**

Please be sure to welcome a number of St. Francis Scouts and their families for this special service that features boys and girls helping to lead worship. Some St. Francis Scout alumni will be present and are encouraged to attend.



Don't miss out on the fun and fellowship you will enjoy at the **St. Francis Black Tie Dinner and Auction on March 1**. Seating will be limited to 150. Use the Invitation below to secure your spot. You will be given the opportunity to choose your meal and to ask to be seated with specific Franciscans if you wish.



*You are cordially invited to join your fellow Franciscans  
at a Black Tie Dinner and Auction*

**Saturday March first  
Two Thousand Twenty-Five  
At six o'clock in the evening**

St. Francis Millen Hall Ballroom

Tickets: \$95 per person

[Please click here to purchase dinner tickets](#)

(Select *Black Tie Dinner* in the drop-down menu) OR

Mail payment for dinner tickets to

St. Francis Episcopal Church

9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066

**Tickets must be purchased by Friday, February 21, 2025.**



### **Ezo Sunday is Coming!**

St. Francis Outreach Committee chair, Jack Mathias and Priest-in-Charge, Weston Mathews invite you to a special service celebrating our relationship with the Diocese of Ezo on **Sunday, March 2 at 10:00 a.m.**

If you would like to learn more about Ezo or how you can support our ministry with them in South Sudan, please contact Jack Mathias at [jackmathi@aol.com](mailto:jackmathi@aol.com)



**Special Lenten Guest Preacher**

**Riley K. Temple**

**Sunday, March 16 at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. services**

Riley K. Temple is a teacher and preacher on Art and Theology. He is the author of *Aunt Ester's Children Redeemed: Journeys to Freedom in August Wilson's Ten Plays of Twentieth-Century Black America* (Cascade, Eugene) 2017. He is currently exploring theologian Howard Thurman's Christian mysticism in contrast to the African mysticism that courses through August Wilson's cultural and theatrical landscape.

He practiced telecommunications law in Washington, DC for over 40 years, representing large telecommunications conglomerates and media companies, including the former Bell companies and their descendants. His public service included terms as communications counsel to the US Senate Committee on

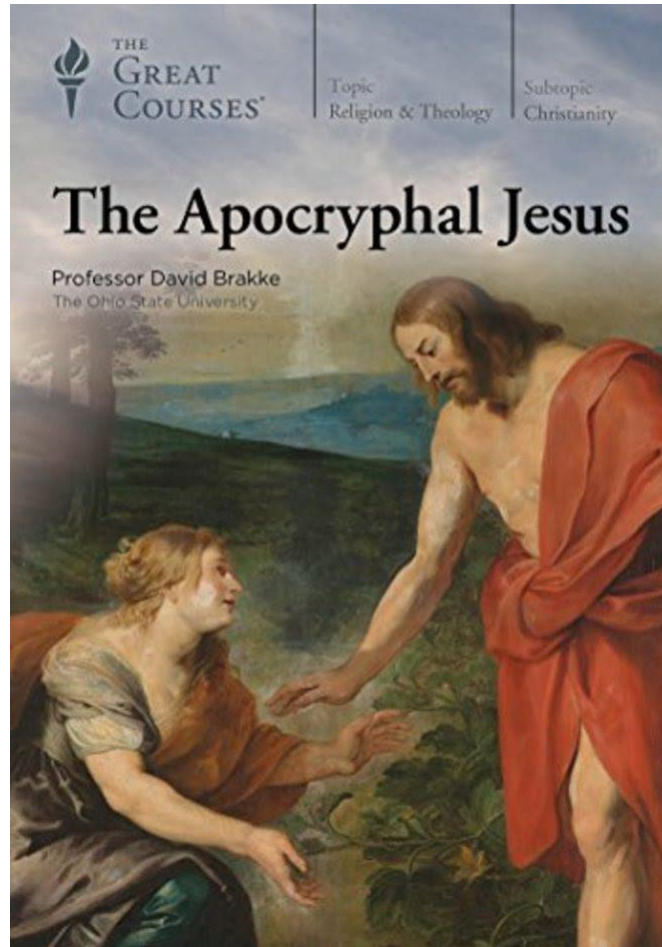
Commerce, Science and Transportation.

He has served on several Boards, including a term as Senior Warden of the vestry at St. John's Lafayette Square. Currently he is a trustee of WETA, the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation, and the Campaign Legal Center. Prior Board service includes the National Archives Foundation, the Trust for the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation.

His honors and awards have included: The Mildred Claypoole Community Service Award; the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington's Individual Arts Patron Award; inclusion in the Library of Congress' HistoryMakers African American Oral History Archive; from Lafayette College, the Joseph S. Bell Award for Distinguished Service, the Doctor of Laws degree Honoris Causa (2009), and the naming of the Riley K. Temple Art Gallery (2011). He is a proud co-founder with Tony Award winner Kenny Leon of the Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company.

Temple holds the AB degree from Lafayette College (1971), the JD degree from Georgetown University (1974), and the Master of Theological Studies degree, cum laude from the Virginia Theological Seminary (2014).

Most recently, he is the curator of the African American Episcopal Historical Collection (AAEHC), a partnership of the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church and the Bishop Payne Library at the Virginia Theological Seminary. The AAEHC chronicles the history of Black Episcopalians.



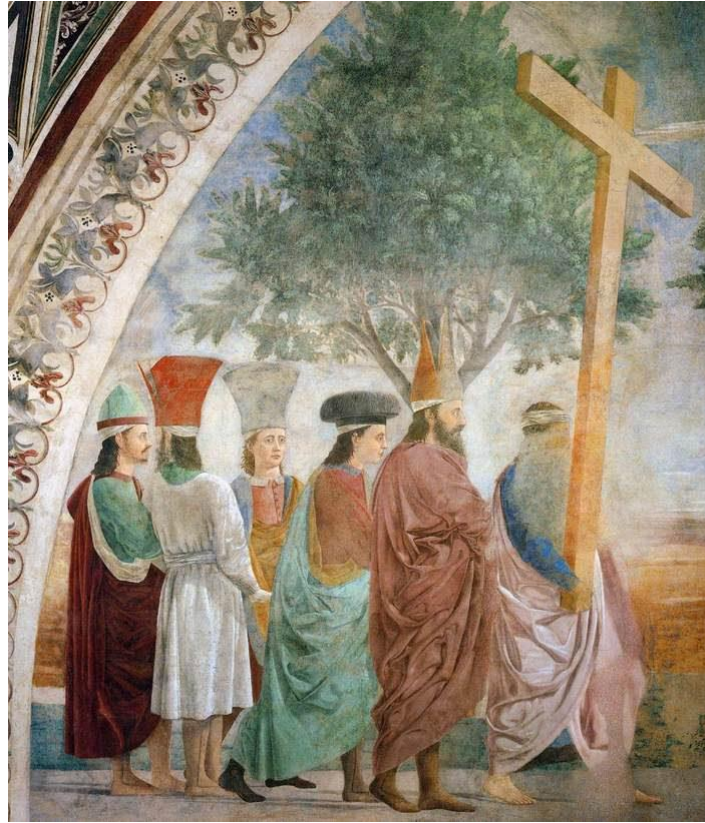
**SAVE THE DATES: Sunday Evening Lenten Series on "The Apocryphal Jesus"**

**March 16, 23, 30, & April 6, Fellowship and Simple Supper begins at 6:00 p.m.;**

**30-minute Great Courses film begins at 6:30 p.m.**

Gain a new perspective on early Christian life and history through non-canonical Christian literature, led by Dr. David Brakke of The Ohio State University. Sessions will include these topics:

- Jesus and Mary in the Proto-Gospel of James,
- Young Jesus and the Infancy Gospel of Thomas,
- Sayings of Jesus from the Gospel of Thomas, and
- The Gospel of Judas's Gnostic Vision



**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, March 22nd  
at 7:00 p.m. for a Special Lenten Concert at St. Francis**

Plan now to attend a very special Lenten concert that will feature our organist/pianist Sasha Beresovsky, and the St. Francis Choir and soloists under the direction of Larry Vote. The concert, a performance of the rarely heard **Via Crucis (Stations of the Cross)** by Franz Liszt, will take place on ***Saturday, March 22nd, 7 p.m.*** at **St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Virginia.** **The concert is free and open to the public.**

Via Crucis is a set of musical meditations on the Stations of the Cross which prominently features the piano supported by choral and solo vocal movements with texts appropriate to the subject. The performance will be further enhanced by the showing of slides of paintings by Renaissance painters who visually interpreted each of the 14 Stations of the Cross. This presentation is an excellent opportunity to immerse oneself in an example of music that dramatizes the Passion of Jesus Christ.



**Rise Against Hunger Family Event at St. Francis**

**Save the Date: Friday evening March 28, 2025**

### Ongoing Weekly Activities

#### **Morning Prayer offered MON-FRI, at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom.**

All are invited to immerse themselves in this supportive offering from St. Francis Church where we regularly pray for one another and our mission in the world.

[Click here to connect to Morning Prayer via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 968 1679 4908; Passcode: church

#### **Contemplative Prayer: Mondays at 7:30-8:30 p.m.**

We hope you can join us via Zoom videoconference.

For more information and any questions, please contact the coordinator for the program: Kathy Anderson.

[Click here to connect to Contemplative Prayer via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 998 1159 6134; Passcode: church

#### **Men's Group: Wednesdays 8:35 a.m.**

**Reading and Discussing** CS Lewis's "Mere Christianity", beginning this WED and the first assignment is the Preface, Ch 1 and Ch 2. Join us every WED morning: All are welcome.

Questions? Contact Stu Edwards

[Click here to connect to the Men's Group via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 922 8116 0056; Passcode: church

**St. Francis Social Hour meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.**

Join us for casual conversation. Grab your favorite beverage and let's reconnect!

[Click here to connect to the St. Francis Social Hour.](#)

Zoom ID: 935 2210 0835; Passcode: church

**Thursday Afternoon Bible Study at 5:00 p.m.**

Meetings take place via Zoom on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join and participate in interesting discussions. Current study: "Blessed are you: The beatitudes of Jesus in scripture and in life"

<https://kerygma.com/collections/kerygma-resources/products/blessed-are-you>

For further information contact Amelia Logan.

[Click here to connect to the Thursday Afternoon Bible Study.](#)

Zoom ID: 836 1505 5434; Passcode: TABS24

**Women's Group Coffee on Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to NOON at Starbucks in Great Falls**